



Background

LiLI Unlimited is the result of years of planning and preparation among Idaho's libraries, the Idaho Commission for Libraries, and the Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) Steering Committee. The goal of creating a virtual catalog for Idaho citizens was at the forefront of LiLI activities during a time when cataloging and interlibrary loan tools were changing for libraries in the Pacific Northwest. A number of libraries relied on a series of compact discs used for cataloging and interlibrary loan. The series, however, was to be retired. A more sophisticated, online version of the tool was available through the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC). But, there were questions about how Idaho libraries would adapt to the online system.

A pilot project was conducted in 2003-2004 to determine how small public and school libraries could utilize the new cataloging and interlibrary loan tools. The project was completed with great success. Through evaluation data and interviews with participants, it was determined that the tools would be a benefit, but only if they could be acquired for a reasonable cost. Around the same time, OCLC introduced to LiLI a program through which library consortia or state libraries could create a large group catalog for identifying and locating materials among the participating libraries. The catalog would link directly with the entire WorldCat catalog; a database with over a billion items found in libraries around the world. In addition to creating a statewide catalog, participating libraries would be able to access OCLC cataloging and interlibrary loan tools at discounted rates through a group subscription.



LiLI Unlimited is, at the heart, a statewide catalog linked with WorldCat through which Idahoans can identify and locate materials in Idaho libraries. In addition, libraries may subscribe to OCLC's WorldCat-based cataloging tools and interlibrary loan system. The cataloging tools allow libraries to keep their holdings up to date in the statewide database while obtaining MARC records for their local circulation systems. Through the interlibrary loan system, those same libraries have access to library materials throughout the world for the research, recreation, and business needs of library customers.

OCLC Services Available Through LiLI Unlimited

Cataloging Services

CatExpress – A fast and easy copy cataloging solution designed for libraries that need a streamlined tool for obtaining MARC records and printing labels. Users access a database with records for more than 60 million items for both popular and hard-to-find items. The records can be downloaded to the local library's catalog. It allows for basic editing of bibliographic records and printing spine and pocket labels for items in the collection.

PromptCat/WorldCat Cataloging Partners – These programs are an automated method of obtaining OCLC MARC records for your library and simplifying your routine copy cataloging. To participate, you (1) notify your vendor that you wish to participate in PromptCat/WCCP and (2) set up a profile with OCLC. When you order materials from the vendor, OCLC is notified of your purchases, your holdings are set in WorldCat, and the MARC records for your items are provided to you. Used in combination with vendor processing services, your items can be ready for the shelf when they arrive from the vendor.

Batchloading – Batchloading (or batch processing) is the process by which a library can submit information about the items it owns to the OCLC/statewide database in a batch, versus one-by-one. A variety of batchloading methods are available, but all serve the purpose of allowing a library's holdings to be accurately reflected in the statewide database.

Connexion - A more powerful cataloging tool used mostly by libraries with “full cataloger” status and trained to complete high levels of cataloging. Connexion allows libraries to copy catalog MARC records as well as create and submit their own original records to the OCLC and statewide databases.

Z39.50 Cataloging – The OCLC Z39.50 cataloging service allows a library to search for and download bibliographic records through the library's Z39.50-compliant local automated system. Access to the service is possible only through the full Connexion system.

Interlibrary Loan Services

WorldCat Resource Sharing (OCLC ILL via FirstSearch) – The OCLC ILL service is a networked borrowing and lending system that offers an easy-to-use interface with access to items in libraries worldwide.

ILL Fee Management (IFM) – IFM saves time and money for libraries that borrow and lend materials with other libraries that have fees for doing so. The system reconciles those charges on the monthly OCLC invoice, saving the need for cutting checks and or sending invoices to multiple libraries.

Union List - Union Listing allows libraries to indicate detailed holdings (volumes and dates) for serials. Using Union Listing, you can let other libraries know, for example, which volumes and years of *Idaho Yesterdays* you have, or how long you retain *Newsweek*. This facilitates resource sharing both for borrowing libraries, who can quickly determine which libraries have the volume they need, and for lending libraries, who don't need to spend time responding to requests for items they don't have.



Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) is an alliance of libraries and library networks which offers a package of statewide library services to the citizens of Idaho. The steering committee consists of Idaho school, public and academic library leaders who work with Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) staff to fulfill the LiLI vision of:

- Offering services to all libraries in Idaho,
- Extending and supplementing local and regional library resources and services to all citizens of Idaho,
- Building on the strength of existing library networking and resource sharing efforts in the state, and
- Providing a framework for cooperation that recognizes the diverse missions and strengths of Idaho's libraries.

LiLI-D (Databases), with easy web access to the full-text of thousands of magazines, professional journals, reference books, and newspapers,

- is funded by the Idaho Commission for Libraries with state funds appropriated by the Idaho Legislature.
- provides access to full-text databases for all ages – elementary students through adults – covering general interest topics, academic and K-12 resources, health, business, professional development, maps, images, and web links.
- makes valuable information available to any Idaho resident, regardless of their access to libraries, and
- is free to any Idaho resident through www.lili.org and at any publicly funded library in the state.

LiLI Unlimited Statewide Catalog, a web-accessible catalog of library materials,

- permits users to identify and locate materials held by Idaho libraries.
- has links to individual library catalogs to determine availability of items.
- includes online link to request items through interlibrary loan.
- is powered by WorldCat (www.worldcat.org), the OCLC catalog with billions of items found in libraries worldwide.
- is free to any Idaho resident through www.lili.org and at any publicly funded library in the state.
- extends and supplements the local resources of all of Idaho's libraries.

Interlibrary Loan (ILL), the borrowing and lending of materials among libraries,

- is supported by LiLI Unlimited Resource Sharing, which allows Idaho libraries to participate with reduced costs possible with a statewide agreement with OCLC.
- motivates libraries to share their own collections by adding their holdings to OCLC's WorldCat database.
- holds promise for smaller libraries to:
 - increase the sharing of their own unique, local resources, and
 - expand their access to information by borrowing from other, previously inaccessible, libraries.

LiLI Express (Reciprocal Borrowing), an agreement among Idaho libraries to extend borrowing privileges for their materials to cardholders of other participating libraries,

- makes it convenient for Idahoans to borrow from other libraries where they travel to work, study, recreate, or visit.
- is an option for each library, although participation is strongly encouraged.

Regional Library Networks, cooperative groups of libraries,

- enable member libraries to expand access to information resources in the communities they serve.
- are established around a shared online catalog, and one or more companion services:
 - interlibrary loan and reciprocal borrowing
 - cooperative purchasing
 - a courier to move materials among member libraries
 - system-wide technical support
- provide opportunities for school and public libraries to expand access and services in partnership with other member libraries.

Training, with the purpose of educating and empowering the library community,

- provides for ongoing learning opportunities in database searching, information literacy, and computer technology.
 - encourages resource sharing and an awareness of networking issues.
- supports LiLI's dedication to access information.

www.lili.org, the website for LiLI services,

- serves as the gateway to all electronic LiLI services, including the LiLI Databases and LiLI Unlimited Statewide Catalog.
- is available to host publicly funded libraries' websites.

From the early stages of developing a website to the implementation of a statewide catalog, LiLI is, above all, a cooperative effort. Together, the Idaho Commission for Libraries and the Idaho library community continue to improve library services for the citizens of Idaho.